

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/641,929

Applicant(s)

CURRANS, KEVIN G.

Examiner

Shin-Hon Chen

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief filed on March 2, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 12-14, 20, 21, and 23.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/17/2000
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 05/09/05
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edmond Defrank on 6 May 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. Please cancel claims 6-11.
3. Please replace claim 12 with following:
4. 12. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling the printing of a document delivered via a computer network comprising the steps of:

printing a first portion of the document with a remote printer, said first portion being unencrypted;

using a serialized print methodology that include having the printer generate a unique serialized print number correlating said document file to the printer in the course of printing the document file;

communicating said generated number, via the computer network, with an entity associated with the document to arrange for the printing of a remaining portion of the document;

receiving, as a result of said communicating step, an encrypted remaining portion of the document;

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using the printer to decrypt said remaining portion; and

printing said decrypted remaining portion using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

5. Please cancel claims 15-19.

6. Please replace claim 20 with the following:

7. 20. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling the printing of a partially encrypted document file delivered via a computer network, at least a first portion of which partially encrypted document is encrypted using at least a first encryption key, comprising the steps of:

encrypting at least part of the partially encrypted document file to form a twice-encrypted file using a second encryption key;

prior to printing at least a second portion of said partially encrypted document file,
decrypting said twice-encrypted file using at least said second encryption key;

printing using a printer at least a second portion of the partially encrypted document file;
creating a serialized print number that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file and returning the serialized print number via the computer network;

receiving the first encryption key;

using the printer to decrypt the first portion to create a decrypted document file; and

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printing said decrypted document file using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending the first computer information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

8. Please cancel claim 22.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments, see Appeal Brief, filed 3/2/05, with respect to independent claim 1 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 1 has been withdrawn. Examiner has identified that other independent claims are not in condition for allowance due to broader limitations. Therefore, examiner has discussed with attorney to place application in condition for allowance by incorporating claims 15 and 16 into claim 12 and incorporating claim 22 into claim 22 and cancel claims 6-11, 15-19, and 22. Attorney has agreed to examiner's proposed amendment. Therefore, examiner has agreed to make examiner's amendment to expedite the prosecution.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 1-4, 12-14, 20, 21, and 23 are allowed.

11. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closest prior arts of record fail to teach or suggest individually or in combination creating and sending a unique serialized print number to a printer and the printer returning said serialized number to receive first encryption key and decrypting at the printer said first portion of said partially encrypted file

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to create a partially decrypted document file in light of other features discloses in independent claims 1, 12, and 20.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shin-Hon Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3789. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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S.C.


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